

Library Responsibility Law

Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended.

Section 16-13-330. Stealing or damaging works of literature or objects of art. Any person who shall steal or unlawfully take or wilfully or maliciously write upon, cut, tear, deface, disfigure, soil, obliterate, break or destroy, or who shall sell or buy or receive knowing the same to have been stolen, any book, pamphlet, document, newspaper, periodical, map, chart, picture, portrait, engraving, statue, coin, medal, equipment, specimen, recording, film or other work of literature or object of art belonging to or in the care of a library, gallery, museum, collection, exhibition, or belonging to or in the care of any department or office of the state or local government, or belonging to or in the care of a library, gallery, museum, collection or exhibition which belongs to any incorporated college or university or which belongs to any institution devoted to educational, scientific, literary, artistic, historical or charitable purposes shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars or imprisonment for not more than thirty days.

Section 16-13-340. Failure to return books, newspapers, magazines and the like borrowed from libraries of other institutions. Whoever borrows from any county library or municipal, school, college, or other institutional library or gallery, museum, collection or exhibition, any book, newspaper, magazine, manuscript, pamphlet, publication, recording, film or other article belonging to or in the care of such library, gallery, museum, collection, or exhibition, under any agreement to return the same, and thereafter fails to return such book, newspaper, magazine, manuscript, pamphlet, publication, recording, film or other article, shall be given written notice, mailed to their last known address, or delivered in person, to return such book, newspaper, magazine, manuscript, pamphlet, publication, recording, film or other article, within fifteen days, such person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars or imprisonment for not more than thirty days; provided, that the notice required by this section shall bear upon its face a copy of this section.

Section 16-13-350. Posting copies. Every county library, municipal, school, college or other institutional library or gallery, museum, collection or exhibition, or any such institution belonging to any incorporated college or library or belonging to any incorporated institution devoted to education, scientific, literary, artistic, historical or charitable purposes, whose books, newspapers, magazines, manuscripts, pamphlets, publications, recordings, films or other articles are covered by or protected by this act, shall post and display in at least two public places within such institution or library a copy of this act so that it may be read by anyone going into, visiting or belonging to such institution and borrowing books or other documents from such institutions.

Section 16-13-360. Disposition of fines collected. Any and all fines collected pursuant to the terms of this act shall be paid into the fund of the county library, municipal, school, college or other institutional library or gallery, museum, collection or exhibition injured by the act of the person so fined.

Section 16-13-370. Cumulative effect of 16-13-330 to 16-13-360. The provisions of this act are not intended as a substitute for or a replacement of any penalties now provided by law, but shall be considered accumulative and in addition thereto.

*This notice provided by the South Carolina State Library and funded
by the Library Services and Technology Act.*